

AMSCOPE

Newsletter of the AMERICAN MINIATURE SCHNAUZER CLUB Member of the American Kennel Club

April 2011

Volume CB19

Issue 4

SPECIALTY WINS

Cactus State MSC March 3, 2011

Sweepstakes (2-2) Judge: Kathy Colby

Best in Sweeps... Verde's Rym Ima Ford Truck
Man/Onion/Soto

BOS in Sweeps... Gough's Black Becomes U/ Gough

Regular Class 9-18 (5-3) Judge: Ms Claudia Seaberg

WD ... North Pine Rebel With A Cause/Cooper/ Palmer

RWD... Lion-L Pullman Pioneer Car/Jacobs WB/BW ... Emerald Isle's She Is A Bonnie Banshee/O'Brien

RWB... Brookehaven's Diva Of Kelvercrest/ Walker

BOB... CH Allaruth Just Kidding V Sole Baye/ Phelps/Ziegler

BOS... CH North Pine Putting On The Ritz/ Cooper/Oldenkamp

Sel CH Regency's Storm Trooper/Haney Sel CH Belgar's Desert Rose/Lande

AMSC SPECIALTY with GWTA JUNE 26, 2011

Location for all shows Queen Mary Events Park, 1126 Queens Highway

Friday evening: Board Meeting Saturday evening: Party at Kathy Colby's house

3202 Iowa Street, Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Report all changes to the roster to:

treasurer@AMSC.us

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Laytonsville, MD 20882

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Senior Dog Health - 8 Common Conditions and How To Treat Them

by Amy D. Shojai

Amy D. Shojai is a certified animal behavior consultant and the award-winning author of 23 pet care books, including "Complete Care for Your Aging Cat" and "Complete Care for Your Aging Dog."

Do you love a senior citizen canine?

Join the crowd! Fifty percent of owners share their hearts with pets age 7 or older. Modern veterinary care helps many dogs stay healthy a decade or more, and small dogs sometimes double that and age gracefully well into their twenties.

A longer life increases the odds dogs develop "old fogy" problems, though. Medical help is important, but you can keep your old-timer happy and healthy with simple and/or inexpensive tips for dealing with these eight common aging dog issues.

Arthritis: This can affect all dogs, but large breeds are most prone. Extra weight puts greater stress on the joints. Achy joints cause limping, difficulty climbing stairs or getting up after naps. A heating pad placed under the dog's bed soothes creaky joints. Gentle massage as well as OTC supplements such as omega-3 fatty acids and glucosamine-type products also help. Low-impact exercise — walks or swimming — and slimming down pudgy pooches delays problems. Provide steps — even a cardboard box — to help old dogs navigate stairs or hop onto the sofa.

Cataracts: Dogs suffer from cataracts more than any other species, but blindness rarely slows them down. They compensate by relying more on sense of smell and hearing. Owners may not notice vision loss unless the dog visits unfamiliar surroundings. Avoid rearranging furniture so blind dogs can rely on their memory of familiar landmarks. Baby gates placed near stairs protect blind dogs from falling. Avoid startling blind dogs by announcing your presence before walking near or petting. Blind dogs enjoy games with noisy toys they can hear or hide-and-seek strong-scented with objects. Constipation: When dogs stop moving around as much, inside movement slows down, too. A treat of 1/2 cup of milk or 1 to 3 teaspoons of nonflavored Metamucil twice a day (depending on the size of the dog) or high-fiber foods like raw carrot or canned pumpkin help keep things moving. Most dogs like the taste of pumpkin or squash.

Deafness: Hearing naturally fades with age, but you can compensate by using vibration and hand signals instead of verbal commands. Try stomping your foot to get your dog's attention. Switch a flashlight on and off to call him inside or use the porch light to signal dinner is served. Vibrating collars also work well to communicate with deaf dogs.

Dental Issues: Eighty percent of dogs have dental problems by age 3, and the risk increases 20 percent for each year of a dog's life. Enzymes in special "dental diets" and meat-flavored pet tooth paste helps break down plaque. Offer dental chews, rawhides, a chew-rope covered with dog toothpaste or even apples and carrots for healthy toothcleaning chews.

Incontinence: Does your dog leave a wet spot where she sleeps? Incontinence refers to loss of bladder tone, and it mostly affects old lady spayed dogs. Prescription drugs may help, but management is equally important. Increase her potty breaks and pick up water bowls two hours before bedtime. Toddler "pull-up" pants work for some dogs or choose doggy diapers to help contain the urine.

Obesity: Forty to 50 percent of dogs ages 5 to 12 are overweight. Obesity often affects aging dogs because they exercise less but eat the same amount. Extra weight makes arthritis worse. Feed smaller meals inside puzzle toys so that the dog takes longer to eat and feels more satisfied as she works to earn her kibble.

Senility: Thirty percent of dogs ages 11 to 12 show one or more signs of senility — canine Alzheimer's. Affected dogs act confused, forget to ask to go outside, cry and

Continued on p. 4, col. 3... SENIORS



Please let me know if you make a change.

*DECALS & PINS. You can get AMSC decals (\$1.00) and Replacement pins (\$7.50) from:
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*LOCAL CLUBS...please be sure to include all information when sending Specialty tear sheets for inclusion in AMSCOPE e.g. Judges, dates, entry, obedience.

* LOCAL CLUBS...PLEASE send a copy of your newsletter to the following members of the Local Club Bulletin Committee:

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*E-MAIL...If you would like to send your Bouquets and Biscuits to AMSCOPE via E-MAIL, use the following address and include it in the body of the email. CBORR@AOL.COM

The deadline for the May issue is April 20.

Are Heartworms Developing Resistance to Preventatives?

More dogs on year-round preventative are testing positive for heartworms

In August 2010, representatives of the American Heartworm Society (AHS), the Companion Animal Parasite Council (CAPC), and experts in the field of nematode resistance met in Atlanta. Their goal was to discuss the possibility of heartworms becoming resistant to "macrocyclic lactones," the scientific name for the heartworm preventatives we know as Heartgard (ivermectin), Interceptor (milbemycin oxime), Revolution (selamectin), and ProHeart (moxidectin).

Dr. Everett Mobley, a veterinarian who practices in Missouri, wrote about this issue in his "Your Pet's Best Friend" blog in May 2009. He says that he first began noticing an increase in the number of dogs in his clinic who tested positive for heartworms despite being on year-round heartworm preventatives in 2006. He learned that other veterinarians were reporting similar experiences, and that "These reports come from the Mississippi valley, starting about 100 miles south of St. Louis, and getting worse as one goes south."

Experts dismissed these reports for a long time as being due to "client noncompliance," that is, owners failing to give the preventatives to their dogs 12 months a year. It was not until April 2009 that they began to say, "We know that something has changed, but we don't know what it is. There is a problem, but the underlying cause has not been determined."

The issue was a primary topic of discussion at the American Heartworm Society's 2010 Triennial Symposium held in April. A landmark initial study was presented that evaluated heartworm microfilariae in different regions of the Mississippi Delta. The study revealed differences in sensitivity of the samples to macrycyclic lactones. Separate experiments revealed genetic variability of heartworms in different geographic locations, which could potentially be associated with varying responses to the drugs.

Recommendations

The AHS and CAPC issued a statement in November regarding the findings of the meeting in Atlanta, acknowledging the problem and calling for further study. They believe that any heartworm resistance is geographically limited (presumably to the Mississippi valley) at this time based on credible reports of lack of efficacy. They recommend that pet owners continue to give preventatives year-round, following label directions, as they continue to be effective for the vast majority of dogs. There is no evidence that higher doses or more frequent dosing would increase protection. They also recommend yearly heartworm testing for all dogs, even if they have been kept on preventatives.

In the past, we have recommended that people might safely extend the time between doses of heartworm preventatives to six weeks, and decrease the dosage when using Interceptor, based on the efficacy studies that were done when the FDA approved these drugs. It is safer to administer preventatives monthly and to give the full label dosage. Following these steps will also ensure that, should your dog become infected, the product manufacturer's guarantee will be honored and treatment costs will be covered. (Manufacturers will guarantee a product only when purchased from a vet.)

We still question the need to give preventatives year-round in cold climates, where mosquitoes cannot survive during the winter. The heartworm life cycle requires the larvae to spend time inside a mosquito in order to develop into adults; without mosquitoes, there is no risk of infection. In warm climates such as the southern halfofthe U.S. (below the 37th parallel), give heartworm preventatives year-round. This is also necessary to avoid voiding the manufacturers' guarantees.

If you choose not to give heartworm preventatives year-round, keep in mind that these drugs work "backward," killing larvae that may have infected your dog in the *previous* month. Give the last dose after temperatures have dropped, and start them up again a month after your area warms up. If temperatures remain above about 45 to 50 degrees, day and night, you should give your dog monthly heartworm preventatives.

Keep in mind when testing for heartworms that it takes at least six months following exposure before a dog will test positive. This

continued on p.4, col. 2...HEARTWORM

Digestion: The Importance of Fiber

You've heard it from your doctor, your nutrition-savvy friends, and TV commercials for high-fiber breads and cereals: People need more fiber in their diet. But do you know the role that fiber plays in the digestive process? And did you ever stop to consider that dogs also need fiber in their diet? Let's take a look at what happens during digestion and how fiber helps.

Digestion: The inside story Food gets broken down into small pieces that can be absorbed and used by the body in a process called "digestion." In mammals, this process takes place in the digestive or alimentary tract, often simply called the "gut." The gut is basically a hollow tube that food passes through. In this tube, food is acted upon by various enzymes and acids that break it down to release the nutrients dogs (and people) require.

The major classes of nutrients that need to be digested are carbohydrates, protein, and fat. Other nutrients—such as minerals and vitamins—are also digested and absorbed in the gut, but in smaller quantities.

The first steps in the digestive process

Digestion begins in the mouth, where food is mechanically broken down and mixed with saliva before it's swallowed. The sight and smell of food stimulates the flow of saliva, causing the dribbling and "lip smacking" often seen at mealtime. Once the food arrives in the mouth, its taste and physical presence help increase saliva production. Saliva contains mucus, a very effective lubricant that coats the food to help with swallowing. Chewing is also an important part of the process because it aids in reducing the size of food particles in preparation for digestion.

Next stop: The stomach When food is swallowed, it passes down the esophagus, and arrives at the stomach within a few seconds. The stomach has several functions. It's a temporary storage organ; it's a mixer (where digestive enzymes are added to the food); and it's a regulator valve that controls the flow of nutrients into the small intestine. Protein digestion begins in the stomach.

Stomach secretions contain protein-digesting enzymes (proteases), hydrochloric acid, and mucus. The acid provides an environment in which the enzymes work best. Mucus lubricates the food, and protects the lining of the stomach wall from being digested by its own enzymes. The secretion of acid, mucus, and enzymes depends on the composition and quantity of food eaten, and is regulated by hormones and nerves.

The stomach contents are mixed thoroughly to form a milky liquid called chyme, which is then passed into the duodenum (the first part of the small intestine).

Inside the intestines The duodenum is the main site for digestion in the small intestine. Here, more enzymes—from the intestinal wall and the pancreas—are added to the chyme. Pancreatic juice also contains sodium bicarbonate, which neutralizes the acidic chyme that arrives in the duodenum. These juices provide an alkaline environment for optimal functioning of pancreatic and intestinal enzymes. Bile from the liver, which aids in fat digestion, is also secreted into the duodenum.

The small intestines are very long, and absorption takes place along its entire length. Folds and finger-like projections, called villi, in the lining of the intestinal wall dramatically increase the surface area for absorption. In some dogs, the absorptive area of the small intestine may be as large as the floor of a small room!

The digestion of food is completed in the small intestine, and once the food has been broken down to its simplest form, it can be absorbed across the wall of the intestine and into the blood, where it can be used or stored by the body.

By the time food reaches the large intestine, the useable nutrients have been digested and absorbed. In this part of the gut, water is absorbed, and bacterial fermentation takes place on some of the undigested food. There are many types of bacteria in the large intestine. The right types of bacteria are important for keeping the large intestine healthy. Some fermentation results in the production of gas, associated with flatulence.

Feces are around 60–70% water, and the rest is made up of undigested food, dead bacteria, and some inorganic material. The feces are stored in the rectum and evacuated through the anal sphincter.

What is fiber and why is it so important? Fiber's importance is touted so often, it's easy to forget that many people probably really don't know much about it. Here are a few quick fiber facts:

· Fiber is a type of carbohydrate that provides energy for your dog's bodily functions. · There are two types of dietary fiber: soluble and insoluble. Soluble fiber is not able to be digested by your dog, but is fermented as a food source by bacteria in the large intestine. Insoluble fiber, which is not digestible at all, provides bulk and helps waste

products move through the large intestine to be excreted. This type of fiber is generally made up of plant cell walls.

- · A proper and balanced canine diet should include both types of fiber.
- · Common sources of fiber in dog food include grains, beet pulp, and chicory.

The benefits of fiber to your dog's health are many and varied. Research indicates that meals rich in certain types of soluble fiber may lead to increased digestibility, which means that your dog can utilize more of the nutrients in his food with less waste for you to scoop up.

Here's a closer look at more of the benefits fiber provides for your dog.

Weight management. Foods that are higher in fiber can decrease the calorie density of the diet, and have a tendency to make dogs feel fuller. As a result, their hunger is satisfied by eating less calories—which means they can walk away from their meal happy, without overloading on calories.

Bacteria control. In your dog's large intestine, certain types of soluble fiber are fermented by bacteria, resulting in short-chain fatty acids. These fatty acids, in turn, help suppress the growth of harmful bacteria in your dog's gut. In addition, they also help provide a small amount of fuel for your dog's body and metabolic functions.

Improved stool quality. You will likely see an improvement in the quality of your dog's stool when you feed him a high-fiber diet. A "high quality" stool is one that is well-formed and solid (but not too hard) vs. one that is loose. And we don't have to tell which poop is easier to scoop when you walk your dog.

Help with anal sac disease. The glands around a dog's anus produce a secretion that is stored in two anal sacs, one on each side of the anus. Each sac has a duct that can become impacted. When this happens, you may notice your dog scooting his rear across the floor or constantly licking the area around his anus. Dogs perform those behaviors in an effort to relieve the discomfort and pressure of full anal sacs. Insoluble fiber promotes bulkier stool formation, and this puts pressure on the sacs, helping them express themselves naturally to help prevent future problems.

Make sure your dog gets an appropriate amount of fiber

Because dietary fiber can help your dog in so many ways, look for food that—in addition to being complete and balanced—also has a sufficient level of fiber.

AKC CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

New Performance and Agility Opportunities Available to Competitors

New York, NY – The American Kennel Club has recently launched several new competitive opportunities for exhibitors in Performance Events and Agility, and I'm pleased to update you about the success and progress of these programs.

The Blue Grass Coursing Club and Greyhound Association of Northern Georgia hosted the first AKC Coursing Ability Tests at the end of February. This new Titling event, which tests the dog's ability to course, opens up the fun of Lure Coursing to beyond sight hounds to all dogs - purebreds and mixed-breeds.

There were 28 different breeds of all shapes and sizes coursed, including a Newfoundland, Great Dane, Boxers, Cardigan Welsh Corgis as well as mixed-breed dogs. The first dog to earn a Coursing Ability Title was "Juno," a Belgian Tervuren who also earned his AKC Championship three weeks prior.

The clubs received 158 entries over the five tests, and approximately 75% of the dogs passed, but the real focus was on camaraderie and fun. Competitors provided positive feedback, cheered on each other's dogs and enjoyed the day. We look forward to seeing this event expand to clubs across the country. A big thank you goes to Doug Ljungren, AKC's Performance Events AVP, for bringing this new sport to life!

In Agility, I'm pleased to announce the creation of the Preferred Agility Championship title, or PACH, which will take effect July 1st. Originally scheduled for 2013, we're happy to implement it almost 2 years ahead of schedule to recognize our Preferred Agility dogs. Dogs must achieve a minimum of 750 championship points and 20 double qualifying scores from the Excellent Standard and Jumpers with Weaves classes to obtain the championship.

The PACH title is also retroactive, so that any dog that met the requirements prior to July 1st, 2011 will have PACH prefix added to their AKC registered name in the registration database.

We are also looking forward to the upcoming 15th annual AKC National Agility Championship, in Lexington, VA on April 1-3. We have a record-breaking 1,136 entries, including for the first time ever Canine Partners listed dogs. And for even more fun, we're using Twitter to publish real-time results of every run in every ring (ex. www.twitter.com/AKCRing1, etc.). We hope the exhibitors and spectators really enjoy this!

HEARTWORMS..cont'd from p. 2, col.3

interval may be increased if the dog is being treated with heartworm preventatives during this time. The AHS now recommends that three consecutive negative tests, each six months apart, may be needed before we can feel confident that a dog is not infected with heartworms. Research into possible resistance of heartworms to current medications is ongoing in a number of universities and other centers in the United States, Canada, and Italy. We'll keep you updated.*

- Mary Straus

For more information:

State of the Heartworm Symposium 2010 heartwormsociety.org/AHS-Executive-Summary.pdf

Heartworm Roundtable: Reports of Lack of Efficacy of Macrocyclic Lactones heartwormsociety.org/CAPC-AHS.pdf Are Heartworms Getting Worse? www.yourpetsbest_friend/2009/05/

GWTA ACCOMMODATIONS

Block rates are available at the following hotels under GWTA

Queen Mary, 1126 Queens Highway, Long Beach, CA (562) 432-6964 Special Rate: \$109 per night

+ a one time non-refundable pet fee of \$50.Due to the popularity of this hotel, the busy travel season and theoverwhelming demand for hotel rooms on board The Queen Mary, an early cancellation policy will be in effect for The Queen Mary. If for some reason you are not able to keep any part of your hotel reservation, please keep in mind you MUST make all cancellations by 5 PM local time Wednesday, May 25, 2011.

HOTEL CURRENT 5325 East Pacific Coast Hwy., Long Beach, CA (562) 597-1341 or (800) 990-9991 SPECIAL RATE: \$79 Per Night, No Pet Deposit Reservation Deadline: June 1,

2010

MAKE RESERVATIONS DIRECT WITH HOTELS

The following area motels and hotels also allow dogs. Some require a non-refundable pet cleaning deposit:

The Marriott Long Beach Airport: 4700 Airport Plaza Dr., Long Beach, CA (562) 425-5210 Holiday Inn, Long Beach Airport:

2640 Lakewood Blvd., Long Beach, CA (562) 597-4401

Bouquets & Biscuits

- * Ch. RMK Streetkar Named Desire born October 28, 2009 by Ch Orleans's Fils Noir de Twister X Ch RMK Miss Kongeniality finished her requirements for AKC championship title by receiving her first two majors on the 2011 Florida January Circuit and finishing with a Group 1, four point major a month later. "Stella" is owned by Judy Rodrick, Kevin Bond and Darlene Petche. She is the third champion for her sire and the first for her dam.
- * Ch Southcross Rd To Independence, CDX, RAE, MX, MXJ, NAP, NJP (S & P, Ch Classic Midnight Cowboy x Ch Southcross Yellow Brick Road UD) completed the requirements for his Novice Standard and Jumpers With Weaves Preferred titles on 2/26/11. Owned by Lynn Tamms & bred by Sonny Lelle. At the ripe old age of 13, Indee came out of retirement to run again. He had a blast. Thanks so much Sonny for sharing this great old dude with me.
- * Southcross Stop The Press, CDX GN RN OA OAJ JE (Ch Cholet's Dangerous Devotee x Southcross Heartbt of America) earned his Graduate Novice and Open Title in 3 tries. What a nice little boy he is. Our Presley was also awarded the VERSATILITY AWARD by The American Miniature Schnauzer Club Inc. The wonderful dog was bred by Sonny Lelle and Angela Lawrence and loving owned by Christine Carter and shown by Carol Carter.

SENIORS..continued from p. 1, col.3

may not recognize you. This heartbreaking condition often causes owners to put dogs to sleep when symptoms develop. A prescription of Anipryl from the vet temporarily reverses signs in 30-60 percent of dogs, but the supplement Cholodin also works pretty well. Two commercial foods (Hill's Prescription b/d and Purina Pro Plan Senior 7+ Original) also reverse signs for a while in some dogs. The saying "use it or lose it" also applies to dogs, so delay the onset of senility by exercising doggie brains with obedience drills, interactive play and puzzles.

TROPHY DRIVE...

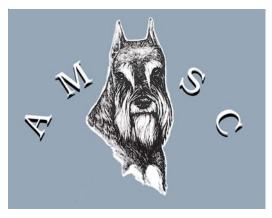
please don't forget the trophy drive. Terrie Houck 105 Fite's Creek Road Mount Holly, NC 28120-1149

FLEECE VESTS

also

White Polo Shirts with same logo Unisex sizes S-XXL \$35 includes shipping These high quality polar fleece vests have the new logo embroidered on the left side of the vest. They come in men's sizes in two colors-royal blue and light grey. The women's sizes come in two colors-raspberry and heather.

\$45.00, which includes shipping



new logo on floor mats and vests

AMSC FLOOR MATS

These striking logo mats are dye injected and are made of high quality nylon and are 100% launderable in cold water. They can be used indoors or outdoors, since they can be washed but will last longer if not subjected to extreme weather. They will be perfect for grooming room, offices, motor homes, condos, or to stack your puppies on. They measure 22" X 33". Cost of the mat is 65.00

plus 15.00 shipping and handling.



AFGHAN

This beautiful colorful woven 100% cotton afghan of Miniature Schnauzers in a garden setting will be a keepsake. Black, Salt/Pepper and Black/Silver Minis are at home on green grass with colorful shrubs, trees and flowers in the background. Lori Bush and Mildred Shultz collaborated with the artist at We Love Country on this very unique design. \$75. Includes Shipping

APRONS

stone, red or royal \$25. includes postage



NEW GYM BAGS

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Shipping to Canada add \$10.00 (US) Shipping Overseas add \$10.00 (US)



UPCOMING SPECIALTIES

Cincinnati MSC May 26, 2011

Regular Classes: Penny Hirstein Sweepstakes: Arlene Smith

Northern CA MSC (NCTA) April 15, 2011

Regular Classes: Ken Berg Sweepstakes: Annemarie Moore

Cactus State MSC April 7, 2011

> Regular Classes: Dr Alvin Krause Sweepstakes: Shirley Cole

April 17, 2011 MSC of Atlanta

> Regular Classes: Carole Luke Weinberger Sweepstakes: Linda Drost

Gateway MSC (Purina Farms) May 5, 2011

Regular Classes: PaulThoman Sweepstakes: Marilyn Cooper Obedience: William Oxendale

May 26, 2011 Cincinnati MSC

Regular Classes: Penny Hirstein Sweepstakes: Arlene Smith

Twin Cities MSC June 10, 2011

> Regular Classes: Richard Lashbrook Sweeps Dr. Andrew Kramer

Chicago MSC June 18, 2011

> Regular Classes: Dawn Hansen Sweeps: Penny Duffee

MSC of Southern California June 24, 2011

Regular Classes: Clay Coady Sweepstakes:Carma Ewer

June 25, 2011 MSC of Southern Californioa

Regular Classe Ken McDermott Sweepstakes: Shirley Cole

Milshore MSC July 29th, 2011

> Sweepstakes: Marcy McGuire Regular Classes: Sally Baugneit **AMSC SPECIALTIES**

GWTA June 26, 2011 Regular Classes: Geri Kelly

Sweepstakes: Martin Marks

Montgomery County KC October 9, 2011

Regular Classes: Wyoma Clouss Sweepstakes: Susie Atherton

Fort Worth March 25, 2012

Regular Classes: Carole L. Weinberger Sweepstakes: Jan Taylor

Great Western June 24, 2012

Regular Classes: Lynda Berar Sweepstakes: Carla Nickerson

October 7, 2012 Montgomery Co.

Regular Classes: Ken McDermott Sweepstakes: Linda Drost



YOU WHO ...!

Report all changes to the roster to:

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FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE: The following information is given to help conduct AMSC business more efficiently. Please remember that the Secretary and the AMSCOPE editor should BOTH be notified of address changes, club officers and specialty results.

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